increased imports of crude and petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRl BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (d) As per present estimates, the gross import of crude oil and petroleum products *for* the year 1988-89 would be 18. 06 million tonnes and 7. 15 million tonnes respectively. The corresponding figures for 1987-88 were 18. 36 million tonnes and 4-28 million tonnes respectively (Provisional). The overall imports during the current year are higher due to increase in demand.

(e) The above estimates take into account the increased crude production and also the substitution by Natural Gas of the demand for certain liquid petroleum fuels.

Closure of Ceramic industries in Gujarat

*220. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT;

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that 800 ceramic industries in Gujarat have been closed due to shortage of 'A' Grade coal; and

(b) if so, what steps are being con templated to be taken by Govern ment to help the ceramic industry, which is in dire need of good quality caol?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indigenous output of Fibre Optics Cables

1260. SHRl TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's estimate of likely demand in India for Fibre Optics Cables, year-wise, for the next three years;

(b) the names of public sector and joint sector units which have been licensed so far to indigenously manufacture this new type of tele-commuications cable and their licensed capacities;

(c) the progress made in implementing Industrial Licences and the likely dates of production by these units;

(d) whether any additional public sector/joint sector units will be licensed to indigenously manufacture Fibre Optics Cables; and

(e) if so, what are the names of public sector/joint sector undertakings whose applications are under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM); (a) to (e) The likely demand for Optical Fibre Cables has been estimated at 16, 500 cable Kms (164000 Fibre Kms) for the period 1987-90. Messrs Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Develop-ment Corporation Ltd. and Hindustan Cables Ltd have been granted Letters of Intent for the manufacture of 20, 000 Kms and 40, 000 Kms of Optical Fibre Cables per annum respectively. Both the units are at various stages of implementation. Since the approved" capacity for the manufacture Of this item is considered adequate to meet the projected demand fresh capacity is not being encouraged in this field at present.